

# **2003 FIRE WEATHER OPERATING PLAN**

## ***WFO Cheyenne, Wyoming***



1301 Airport Parkway  
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001-1544  
(307) 772-2468  
(307)-772-2099 (FAX)  
<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/cys>

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## **I. Introduction**

This operating plan is to be used for the 2003 fire season for the Cheyenne, Wyoming Fire Weather Program. It describes the Fire Weather Program products and services. For further information you should contact the Fire Weather Program Leader, Kevin Daugherty at (307) 772-2468, (Fax: 307-772-2099) or E-Mail: Kevin Daugherty (kevin.daugherty@noaa.gov).

Issues to be noted for the 2003 activities:

1. NWFO Cheyenne is authorized to issue site-specific (Spot) forecasts for both prescribed burns and ongoing wildfires.

- Requests for site-specific (Spot) forecasts from Federal land management agencies shall be honored for both prescribed burns and ongoing fires.
- Request for site-specific (Spot) forecasts from non-federal (state, county, or local) agencies shall be honored only for existing, ongoing, wildfires or when Federal land and/or Federal resources are, or might be, involved in fire suppression efforts.

2. The Cheyenne Office will issue spot forecasts for lands in the following counties:

- In Wyoming:
  - Carbon
  - Converse
  - Albany
  - Laramie
  - Niobrara
  - Platte
  - Goshen
- In western Nebraska
  - Banner
  - Box Butte
  - Cheyenne
  - Dawes
  - Kimball
  - Morrill
  - Sioux
  - Scotts Bluff

3. Contacts to the Cheyenne office should be made through the following number: 307-772-2468. Be sure to identify yourself as a person representing a land management agency and the services

you require. Priority consideration is given to emergency requests involving a threat to life and/or property involving federal resources. Requests for other services will be prioritized according to the time of year and nature of the request.

4. The National Weather Service, according to the National Agreement for Meteorological Services (See Appendices) can, upon request, provide services out of office for training during the "off season" as well as throughout the year. However, the requesting agency must provide all travel and per diem, and due to staffing restrictions and the competition for limited resources, the NWS in Cheyenne reserves the right to service all non-emergency requests. For best consideration, a 60 day advance notification is required for all non-emergency requests. Moreover, they will generally be satisfied on a "first-come-first-served" basis, and as resources will permit.

5. The Cheyenne NWSFO fire weather products can be accessed over the Internet at:  
<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/cys/firewx/>

6. As a reminder: Spot Forecasts will not be issued without an on-site observation in sufficient detail. Be sure to indicate the preferred method for delivery of a Spot Forecast back to the requester.

7. All Spot Forecast requests should be followed up with a phone call to the Cheyenne office. Merely faxing a spot request without calling could lead to unnecessary delays.

8. Agencies are encouraged to provide a USGS contour map or an equivalent along with the spot request. This will greatly speed up the Spot Forecast response time. Latitude and Longitude for the spot will help greatly in locating burn area.

9. See map for which National Weather Service Office has responsibility for each area of Wyoming and the Nebraska Panhandle.

### **Schedule of Services throughout the Year**

#### Mid November \* to Mid March \*

- Daily: No Scheduled Forecasts issued
- Spot Forecasts for wildfires issued as required
- Spot Forecasts for prescribed burns without delay with 24 hour notification. If prior notification is not given, significant delays may be experienced due to priority of duties and office staffing.

\* (Exact dates to be coordinated with user agencies)

#### Mid March \* to May 31 & Mid October \* to Mid November

- Daily: Land management forecast for Wyoming and Western Nebraska issued by WFO Cheyenne by 8:00am

- Spot Forecasts for wildfires issued as required
- Spot Forecasts for prescribed burns without delay with 24 hour notification. If prior notification is not given, significant delays may be experienced due to priority of duties and office staffing.

\* (Exact dates to be coordinated with user agencies as weather and fire danger dictates)

#### June 1 to September 30 \*

- Daily: Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings issued for the district by WFO Cheyenne as critical fire weather and fire danger dictates. Fire specific Red Flag warnings may be issued for fires that spot forecasts have been issued to warn of local impending critical fire weather conditions
- Morning narrative fire weather forecast issued for Southeast Wyoming and the Nebraska Panhandle by WFO Cheyenne by 7:00am.
- NOTE: Afternoon narrative fire weather forecast issued for Southeast Wyoming and the Nebraska Panhandle by WFO Cheyenne by 2:30pm
- NFDRS Trend forecasts issued for Southeast Wyoming and the Nebraska Panhandle for observations provided to WFO Cheyenne by 3:00pm...issued by 3:30pm
- Spot Forecasts for wildfires issued as required
- Spot Forecasts for prescribed burns without delay with 24 hour notification. Note: If prior notification is not given, or severe weather or flash flood watches or warnings are in effect for the WFO's county warning area, significant delays may be experienced due to priority of duties and office staffing.
- Spot Forecasts for prescribed burns will not be issued by WFO Cheyenne between 12:30pm and 3:30pm in order that the fire weather meteorologist can complete the afternoon forecasts by the deadlines listed above.

\* (Date to be coordinated with user agencies. If widespread prolonged cool, wet, early winter-like weather occurs, the afternoon narrative forecast may be terminated.)

#### October 1 \* to October 15 \*

- Daily: Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings issued for the district by WFO Cheyenne as critical fire weather and fire danger dictates. Fire specific Red Flag warnings may be issued for fires that spot forecasts have been issued to warn of local impending critical fire weather conditions
- Morning narrative fire weather forecast for Southeast Wyoming and the Nebraska Panhandle issued by WFO Cheyenne by 7:00am
- NFDRS Trend forecasts issued for zones and observations provided to WFO Cheyenne by 300 pm...issued by 3:30pm
- Spot Forecasts for wildfires issued as required
- Spot Forecasts for prescribed burns without delay with 24 hour notification. Note: If prior notification is not given, or severe weather or flash flood watches or warnings are in effect for the WFO's county warning area, significant delays may be experienced due to priority of duties and office staffing.

\* (Dates to be coordinated with user agencies. If widespread prolonged cool, wet, early winter-like weather occurs, the morning narrative forecast may be replaced by the land management forecast. If unusually warm and dry conditions persist, the morning narrative fire weather forecast may be continued until conditions moderate to typical autumn conditions.)

## **II. Basic Services**

Basic meteorological services provided consist of narrative, land management and spot forecasts, and Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings. Narrative forecasts include a discussion/synopsis, forecasts for specific zones, extended forecasts and outlooks and stability/winds aloft forecasts. Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings will be highlighted in the discussion/synopsis of the narrative fire weather forecast and in the zones for which the watch or warning pertains.

The schedule for providing basic services is located in II. Schedule of services throughout the year).

Narrative Fire Weather Forecast - Morning. The morning narrative fire weather forecast (see appendix A) will be issued by 7:00 AM. The forecast will be a detailed forecast of weather, including cloud cover, precipitation, temperature, relative humidity (including nighttime recovery), 20 foot wind, lightning activity level, and highlights for Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings for each fire weather zone. The fire weather zones may be broken down into subzones by counties and topography as needed to accurately depict expected weather conditions in enough detail to be a significant help in predicting fire behavior. The forecast shall be for three 12 hour periods (i.e. today, tonight and the next day).

The forecast will contain a weather discussion, the latest Haines indices from Rawlins and Cheyenne, Wyoming and Scottsbluff, Nebraska; and a general 3 to 5 day extended forecast. The forecast will also provide a general stability forecast of mixing heights and smoke dispersal for today and tonight.

Narrative Weather Forecast - Afternoon. The afternoon narrative fire weather forecast (see appendix A) will be issued by 2:30 PM. The forecast will be a detailed forecast of weather, including cloud cover, precipitation, temperature, relative humidity, including nighttime recovery, 20 foot wind, lightning activity level, and highlights for Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings for each fire weather zone. The fire weather zones may be broken down into subzones by counties and topography as needed to accurately depict expected weather conditions in enough detail to be a significant help in predicting fire behavior. The forecast shall be for two 12 hour periods, tonight and the next day.

The forecast will contain a weather discussion, the mornings Haines indices from Rawlins and Cheyenne, Wyoming and Scottsbluff Nebraska; and a general 3 to 5 day extended forecast. The forecast will also provide a general stability forecast of mixing heights and smoke dispersal for tonight and the next day.

## Spot Forecasts

In order to provide the best quality service, agency cooperation and understanding is needed. The Cheyenne office will handle requests for forecast services according to the following priority:

- Severe Weather Warnings
- Spot Forecasts for wildfires or emergencies.
- Red Flag Warnings.
- Spot forecasts for prescribed burns.
- All other fire weather products.

General guidelines. WFO Cheyenne, Wyoming shall provide spot weather forecasts as described below for counties in its county warning area. If a request for a spot weather forecast is for a county not within Cheyenne's county warning area, the requester will be referred to the proper office providing that service.

A weather observation from near the fire location is required to receive a spot weather forecast. Without an observation, you will be provided a general forecast for the area.

If at all possible, the requesting agency should provide a record of the weather from the past 2 or 3 days from near the fire to allow the fire weather meteorologist to tailor the spot weather forecast to the location.

Normally, a spot forecast will be provided to you within 30 minutes of the receipt of the request for wild fires and for prescribed burns when 24 hour notification has been provided. For prescribed burns without prior notification, significant delays may be experienced due to priority of duties and office staffing. Delays may also occur if severe weather or flash flood watches or warnings are in effect in the offices CWA.

Normally the request for a spot weather forecast will be made using the form found in Appendix C - Fire Weather Special Forecast Request Form. Complete blocks 1 through 12 and fax the form to NWS Cheyenne at (307) 772-2099. Follow up with a phone call to ensure receipt of the request. Note: If at all possible, the requester should provide a copy of the burn site on a USGS map. This will speed up the spot forecast return time and greatly aid the forecasters.

The spot forecast will be entered into WIMS and faxed back to you on request. Spot forecasts will usually not be read back to you over the phone, to avoid errors in communication and to save time.

Feedback to the fire weather meteorologist on the forecast, both positive and negative is strongly encouraged. If the spot forecast you receive does not appear to be verifying, call the fire weather meteorologist and discuss your concerns. An updated spot forecast will be issued upon your request.

Spot forecasts for wildfires. Spot forecasts will be available 24 hours a day for wildfires and receive the same priority as severe weather warnings. Be sure to identify the type of request to the forecaster so that a proper priority can be placed on the request.

Spot Forecasts for prescribed natural fires. Initially spot forecasts will be issued under the same guidelines as spot forecasts for a declared wildfire. The requesting agency should provide the NWS Cheyenne fire weather meteorologist with an idea of how long the fire is expected to burn, and what weather conditions are critical to the prescription. After the initial spot forecast request, the requesting agency should set up a schedule for requesting follow-up spot forecasts for the duration of the fire. The requesting agency is encouraged to also request more detailed long range weather forecasts to aid in the planning and control efforts. Be sure to discuss these needs with the fire weather forecaster.

The requesting agency should provide the fire weather meteorologist with as many observations from the fire site as possible to help provide detail in the spot forecasts which will aid in fire behavior predictions. Current weather observations from the fire location are required with each request for a spot forecast. Failing to provide an "on site" complete observation will result in limited Spot Forecast services being provided. (Generally, spot requests without a satisfactory "on site" observation will result in a general forecast derived from the most current Fire Weather, Land Management or Public Weather Zone Forecast.)

Spot Forecasts for Prescribed Burns. Spot forecasts will be issued during the times indicated in the previously listed calendar of services. If a requesting agency requires a spot forecast for a prescribed burn outside of the established times, advance notification is preferred (usually a day prior to the burn start). Lack of advance notification will lead to delays due to conflicts in other competing services.

NOTE: Spot forecast requests outside of the times identified may lead to unnecessary delays. Requests for Emergency Spot Forecasts may also result in overtime costs being tagged to the requesting agency resulting in the use of "non-scheduled overtime" in direct support to satisfying the emergency request.

For the best service on spot forecasts for prescribed burns, the requesting agency should coordinate with the Cheyenne Fire Weather Forecaster, Kevin Daugherty, providing (if possible) a copy of the burn plan to include as a minimum: the burn location, aspect, elevation, fuel type and the weather ranges in a week or two before the burn. Providing a list of approved burns well in advance of the burns is also highly recommended.

Spot Forecast Format and Information. The format for spot forecasts is shown in Appendix D. This format will be used for both prescribed burns and wildfires. A detailed forecast will cover the first and second burn period. An outlook, which includes a general forecast of expected weather and trends, will be issued for the third burn period.

The weather items that will be included in a spot forecast are:

- Sky condition and weather.
- Temperature.
- Relative Humidity.
- 20 foot winds.
- Transport winds.
- Mixing height.
- Smoke Dispersal.

If additional weather information is required, the requesting agency representative should notify the fire weather meteorologist when making the spot forecast request. Moreover, the requester is encouraged to call sufficiently ahead of time while coordinating during the planning stage of the prescribed burn.

Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings. Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings are issued to advise land management agencies of the possible development of or actual occurrence of Red Flag conditions. A Red Flag event occurs when critical weather patterns develop that could lead to large and dangerous fires. Conditions that warrant a Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning, either alone or in combination are the expected or actual occurrence of:

- General dry thunderstorm activity (LAL 6), i.e. considerable lightning but little or no measurable precipitation and fire danger in the very high or extreme category.
- The combination of strong winds (usually 25 MPH or greater), low humidities (15% or lower), and high temperatures (usually 80 degrees and above) and fire danger in the very high or extreme category.
- In the judgment of the forecaster, weather conditions and fire danger combine to indicate a severe fire weather episode.

Fire Weather Watch - will be issued by the Cheyenne office for an entire zone or groups of zones whenever the potential for Red Flag conditions exist. A watch will normally be issued 12 to 36 hours in advance of the expected onset of Red Flag conditions. If dry lightning is the only condition expected in the 0 to 12 hour time frame, a Fire Weather Watch may be issued or continued in place of a Red Flag Warning.

Red Flag Warning - will be issued by the Cheyenne office for an entire zone or groups of zones whenever Red Flag conditions are imminent or occurring. A warning will generally be issued within 12 hours of the expected onset of Red Flag conditions, or whenever the forecaster becomes aware of an ongoing Red Flag event.

Fire Weather Watches will usually be issued with the morning or afternoon narrative forecast. Red Flag Warnings may be issued at any time by updating the narrative forecast. The Watch or Warning will be headlined in the forecast with information on the affected area, the valid time of the watch or warning, and a description of the expected severe fire weather conditions included.



Both Watches and Warnings will continue to be highlighted in the narrative fire weather forecast until threatening conditions cease.

Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings will be entered into WIMS and the affected agencies notified by telephone usually before, but always after they have been issued. A Watch or Warning will be canceled when Red Flag conditions are no longer expected to occur. During the off-season, if very warm, dry, and windy conditions are expected, the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center, Rawlins and Casper Interagency Dispatch Centers will be notified by phone as appropriate.

In addition to the Red Flag Warnings issued for entire zones or groups of zones, Red Flag Warnings may be issued for individual fires when a spot forecast is in effect for the fire. These Red Flag Warnings may be issued by the NWS offices in Cheyenne, Riverton and Rapid City by issuing an updated spot forecast and notifying the original requesting agency by phone. These Red Flag Warnings will largely be issued for thunderstorms moving into the fire area based upon Doppler Radar and/or Satellite data.

NOTE: The National Weather Service Fire Weather Watch and Red Flag Warning program is used to warn land management agencies of the onset or occurrence of critical fire weather conditions. The National Weather Service does not make any management decisions as a result of the Watch or Warning. Specific actions are determined by user agencies. Decisions made, as well as actions taken or not taken, are the sole responsibility of the user.

Land Management Forecasts. A land management forecast will be issued for the Cheyenne CWA, during March and April, and from mid October to mid November. The forecast will be issued in Cheyenne by 7:00 AM. It will be placed into WIMS. The forecast will include the extended 3 to 5 day forecast and the 6 to 10 day outlook.

### **III. SPECIAL SERVICES**

Special Meteorological Services are those services uniquely required by land management agencies which cannot be provided by the National Weather Service Forecast Office during normal working hours. Thus, services provided outside the commuting area of this office or on overtime are special services. User agencies assume the costs of these special services to include overtime directly related to the incident, per diem, and travel as required. Special reimbursement procedures have been established between the National Weather Service and participating agencies to meet the special service requirements.

Air Transportable Mobile Unit (ATMU). An Air Transportable Meteorological Unit (ATMU) and Remote Environmental Monitoring System (REMS) are cached at the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center for use on fires in Wyoming, South Dakota and Nebraska. These units, along with a trained and certified Incident Meteorologist (IMET), can be dispatched to a fire on request of a land management agency. An ATMU and REMS must be requested, or already on the fire, when the IMET is dispatched to the fire.

The Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center will handle dispatch procedures for the ATMU and REMS and the IMET. ATMUs and REMS other than those cached at the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center can be dispatched if needed by contacting the National Interagency Fire Center or the Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center. When an ATMU, REMS and IMET are dispatched, the land management agency will notify NIFC, and provide for the transportation of the ATMU, REMS and the IMET to and from the fire.

The IMET comes equipped with a portable computer capable of receiving various meteorological alphanumeric and graphic data as well as satellite and radar data from the National Weather Service Office in Cheyenne via phone lines. The ATMU also has a satellite dish, receiving unit and printer which enables the IMET to receive various weather charts. The ATMU will be manned by the IMET from the Cheyenne office when available, but in an emergency, other IMETs can be dispatched to the fire. Use of the unit provides the Incident Commander with 24 hour on site fire weather forecast service.

Besides transportation to and from the fire, the land use agency will also provide the IMET with electrical power and access to a clean and dry shelter. Phone lines are needed by the IMET, but do not necessarily have to be at the fire site.

The National Weather Service Incident Response Meteorologist cannot be reassigned to another fire without prior approval of NIFC. Once released from the fire by the overhead team, the IMET should be sent directly to his/her home office unless the realignment has been approved by NIFC. Under no circumstances will the IMET be held by the user agency for potential realignment once released from the fire by the overhead team.

AGENCY REQUESTED TRAINING. The fire weather meteorologist is available to assist the user agencies with training at fire behavior and other weather related courses. A request should be forwarded in writing to the office as early as possible to help ensure the request can be satisfied. Every attempt will be made to meet training requests. However, staffing limitations will need to be considered, and consequently, each request will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

#### **IV. Fire Weather Observations**

There are a total of ten (10) fire weather observation stations in the Cheyenne Fire Weather District. A complete station listing is shown in Appendix B.

Observations are the most important single effort the control agencies put into the Fire Weather Program because the product derived from these observations is the fire danger rating. Therefore, it is imperative that the observations are received on time and that the data is accurate. Observers should keep in mind that they "take the weather" as much for their own agency as they do for the National Weather Service, that the total effort is cooperative, and that the goal is to effectively manage a natural resource.

Observations should usually be taken between 1:00 and 2:00 PM MDT. They are then entered into WIMS according to the format in the WIMS USERS GUIDE no later than 2:30 PM MDT. If

the forecaster finds no observation for a particular station at this time, then he or she will assume that none will be available and no forecast will be made for that day.

Fire Weather Station Operation, Inspection and Training - A mutual agreement between the Fire Control Agencies and National Weather Service exists as follows:

- Operation - The fire control agency will provide sites and personnel for taking, recording and transmitting fire weather observational data for NFDRS and National Weather Service. Equipment and its maintenance will be provided by the fire control agency at all stations.
- Inspection - The fire control agency is responsible for inspection and quality control of observational sites and data at all stations. They will be assisted by the NWS Fire Weather Meteorologist when resources are available and/or when requested. The fire weather meteorologist will monitor the observations and will notify the responsible agency when discrepancies are noted.
- Training - Training is the responsibility of the fire control agency. However, the NWS Fire Weather Meteorologist will assist when and where possible.

## **V. Communications**

Methods:

- WIMS - (Weather Information Management System).
- FAX Machine (Cheyenne number 307-772-2099).
- Telephone. (Cheyenne number 307-772-2468).

Observation Transmission:

- WIMS - all observations are entered into WIMS by the fire control agencies by 2:30 PM MDT.

Forecast Dissemination:

- Morning fire weather narrative forecast is entered into WIMS no later than 7:00 am MDT. The user agencies are responsible for further dissemination into the DG and IAMS systems or other fire management system that may exist. Contact Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center, Cody Interagency Dispatch Center or Custer Interagency Dispatch Center for more details.
- Afternoon fire weather narrative forecast is entered into WIMS by 2:30 PM MDT. The user agencies are responsible for further dissemination into the DG and IAMS systems or other fire management system that may exist. Contact Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center, Cody Interagency Dispatch Center, Rawlins Interagency Dispatch Center or Casper Interagency Dispatch Center for more details.
- NFDRS forecasts based on the current fire weather observation. This is entered into WIMS by 3:30 PM MDT.

- Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings - usually issued with the morning or afternoon forecast and are highlighted and entered into WIMS. If the Warning is warranted at other times, the NWS Cheyenne office will update the forecast immediately and put it into WIMS. Fire specific Red Flag Warnings (for spot forecasts) will be issued by calling the original requesting agency.
- Spot Forecasts - entered into WIMS, and if requested, via FAX.
- Updated Forecasts - transmitted via WIMS and users notified by phone. Updates can be made at any time when needed.

**Rocky Mountain Coordination Center:**

Address: Rocky Mountain Coordination Center  
Colorado State BLM Office / RMCC  
2850 Youngfield Street  
Lakewood, Colorado 80215  
Attn: Fire Weather Operations

Staff POCs: RMA Fire Weather Program Manager / BLM: Tim Mathewson  
(303) 455-4309  
Tim\_Mathewson@co.blm.gov

RMA Assistant Fire Meteorologist / NPS: Russ Mann  
(303) 455-4308  
Russ\_Mann@co.blm.gov

RMA Intelligence / BLM: Vacant  
FAX: (303) 445-4319

Homepage address: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/fire/rmacc.html> (then click on "fire weather" link).

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** In support of RMCC operations, the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center Fire Meteorologist will produce the Rocky Mountain Area 7 Day Fire Danger/Fire Weather Outlook May through September (or determined by fire season and activity), Rocky Mountain Area Fire Day Outlook (June through September), and Daily Fire Weather Briefings (June through September). Other responsibilities include reviewing and quality control oversight of RMA RAWS network through research and statistical analysis, development and utilization of a climate database (RAWS and other resources), provide supporting information for agency severity process, training, and act as a liaison between Land Management Agencies and the National Weather Service.

**FIRE WEATHER HOURS OF OPERATION:** Fire Meteorologists are available for consultation year-round. Outside of the fire season, Tim and Russ will be on duty 0700-1600 Monday through Friday. The Meteorologists will typically be available 7 days a week June through September; however adjustments may be made based on the fire season and activity.

Refer all training requests to Tim Mathewson.

## BASIC METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES.

Other meteorological services will be provided by Fire Meteorologist at the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center in Lakewood, in support of Coordination Center operations. Basic routine services include a Daily Fire Weather Briefing, Rocky Mountain Fire Day Outlook and 7 Day Weekly Fire Weather/Fire Danger Outlook for the Rocky Mountain Area.

## RMCC PRODUCTS AND SERVICES:

- Rocky Mountain Fire Day Outlook. The Fire Day Outlook is issued twice daily with the morning product issued no later than 0800 hours and the afternoon product no later than 1600 hours from June through September. However, adjustments to issuance dates may be made based on the fire season and activity. This product highlights fire weather concerns and summarizes the fire weather situation for the Rocky Mountain Area. The afternoon product will highlight and summarize fire weather information for the "tonight" and "tomorrow" periods. The morning update will highlight and summarize fire weather information for the "today" period. The outlook may also include a daily fuels statement and resource statement. Format of the product is under development.
- 7 Day Weekly Fire Weather/Fire Danger Outlook. The Weekly Fire Weather/Fire Danger Outlook is issued Monday and Thursday afternoon no later than 1600 hours May through September, with updates as needed. An individual product is issued for each state (Colorado, Wyoming and South Dakota). The product contains a summary of weather events for the past 7 days, weather discussion, 7 day trends for specific fire weather elements (weather, temperature, humidity and significant winds), fuel conditions, and a fire danger outlook that projects future fire activity (increase or decrease) based on fuels and expected fire weather patterns. Format of the product is under development.
- Daily Fire Weather Briefings. RMCC Fire Meteorologist will host daily fire weather briefings June through September (dates based on fire season/activity...therefore subject to change) for the Rocky Mountain Area. This briefing will be geared towards the needs of the Coordination Center and MAC group, highlighting areas of concern and increased fire activity for the next two or three operational periods. Field personnel (dispatch centers and FMOs) may find the briefing beneficial to their operations and daily activities.

## PRODUCT DISTRIBUTION:

The internet and the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center homepage <http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/fire/rmacc.html> will be the primary means of obtaining products developed by RMCC Fire Meteorologist. The products will be found under the fire weather link.

## USER AGENCY TRAINING ACTIVITY

The Fire Weather Program Manager at the RMACC is available to provide training at fire behavior schools and other weather related courses. As soon as class dates are known, you can e-

mail the request (Tim\_Mathewson@co.blm.gov) or call Tim Mathewson at the Rocky Mountain Coordination Center (303) 239-3679.